GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1330
ANSWERED ON:15.07.2004
THROWING OF GARBAGE ON TRACKS
Patil Shri Shriniwas Dadasaheb

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware that Pantry car operators on various express and mail trains throw the garbage on the tracks;

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government to curb this activity;

(c) whether the Government has also noticed the unhygienic living of staff serving food to passenger in the trains from the pantry;

(d) whether it will be made mandatory for the pantry operators to keep themselves and the kitchen more hygienic and clean; and

(e) if so, the action proposed by the Government to enforce hygiene in pantry in an effective manner?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU)

(a) to (e): A statement is attached.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PART (a) TO (e) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.1330 BY SHRI SHRINIWAS PATIL TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 15.07.2004 REGARDING THROWING OF GARBAGE ON TRACKS

(a) and (b): Procedure orders for handling garbage and their disposal arising out of Pantry car services, have been given to the Railways for implementation by the licensees as well as the Departmental staff. Some of the salient instructions contained in the aforesaid orders are as under:-

(i) In all pantry cars, big size dustbin should be placed at a convenient location;

(ii) Zonal Railways should provide big size plastic bag and place the same in dustbin.In case of licencee operated services, it has to be supplied by the licencees;

(iii) All waste material arising out of preparation of food, if any, in pantry car should be collected in the dustbin;

(iv)All bearers/waiters will collect the waste material like empty casserole containers,mineral water bottles/pouches, glasses, cutlery, napkins etc. from the respective coaches after making service to the customers and will collect the wastes in the same container.They should under no circumstances throw any material either in the vestibules or in the coach.They should also not throw waste material from the running train.

(v) The waste material so collected in the plastic bag should be secured properly.The bag should be unloaded at every crew changing point where station safaiwala will be available for collection of the same.

(vi)In case safaiwala is not available near the pantry car during the halt of the train at a particular station, pantry car staff will unload the bag and dump it in the dustbins provided on the platforms.

(vii) The station safaiwala will collect these bags along with other garbage of the station and will dispose them off in the dustbins provided outside the station from where it would be cleared either by rail conservancy staff or the municipal corporation staff as the case may be.

(viii)It would be the responsibility of the catering inspector in charge in case of departmental units and the licensees in case of private operated units that adequate quantity of plastic bags are available all the time with the pantry car staff.

Zonal railways have also been instructed to conduct frequent inspection at various levels and ensure the above instructions are rigidly adhered to. Action is taken against the departmental staff and the licensee when irregularities are noticed.

(c) to (e): Instructions have been given to the zonal railways concerning personal hygiene and food safety for compliance by the departmental staff and the licensees of pantry cars.These instructions include

(i) periodical medical examination of food handling persons

(ii) maintenance of personal hygiene by catering staff,

(iii) keeping premises clean through measures like, draining out of organic matters, all fans and blowers of coolers, freezers of kitchen and storage areas are regularly subjected to cleaning and removing of cobwebs and dusts from walls, windows, doors and skylight of pantry cars etc. Also regular and surprise checks are conducted to see that the instructions in this regard are effectively followed.